

Initiative: Remove Requirement to Consider LOOP in Conjunction with Large LOCA – Rulemaking

Lead Office/Division: NRR/DPR

Supporting Offices/Divisions: TBD

Description

The proposed rule would amend the Commission's regulations to eliminate, based upon appropriate risk considerations, the assumption of a coincident loss of offsite power for postulated large-break (low frequency) loss-of-coolant accidents (LB-LOCA) in General Design Criterion (GDC) 35. The proposed rule would provide a voluntary alternative to existing requirements in situations where specified acceptance criteria are satisfied, and also would address a petition for rulemaking submitted by Bob Christie (Performance Technology) (PRM-50-77).

The Boiling Water Reactor Owners' Group (BWROG) submitted License Topical Report (LTR) NEDO-33148, Revision 2, "Separation of Loss of Offsite Power from Large Break LOCA," on August 25, 2006. The LTR provides the technical and regulatory basis for an exemption request from the current regulations, which require (in part) the ability for a plant to mitigate large break loss of coolant (LOCA) accidents using only onsite power system operation (assuming offsite power is not available). The technical basis for this rulemaking is being developed through the review of the BWROG LTR. The staff review is ongoing.